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Message Text

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14
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 RSC-01 RSR-01 SS-15 FILE-01 SSO-00 CCO-00

ADP-00 AGR-20 DOTE-00 INT-08 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01

SCI-06 CEQ-02 EPA-04 SCEM-02 PRS-01 PA-03 USIE-00

INRE-00 NSCE-00 ACDA-19 EUR-25 SAJ-01 IO-13 PM-07

DODE-00 /236 W
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O 192330Z JUL 73
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8990
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SEOUL 4702

SECTO 40

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CORRECT OMISSIONS IN TEXT)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, JA
SUBJECT: ECONCOM IX: SECRETARY'S COUNTERPART
MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER OHIRA

1. SECRETARY OF STATE WILLIAM P. ROGERS
AND JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER OHIRA MET ON TUESDAY
JULY 17, 1973 FROM 11:15 TO 2:00 - LUNCHEON INCLUDED.
PARTICIPANTS:

US SIDE	JAPANESE SIDE
ROGERS	OHIRA

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INGERSOLL	HOGEN
SNEIDER	TSURUMI
BRAY	OKAWARA
ERICSON	FUKADA

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WICKEL (INTERPRETER) NUMATA (INTERPRETER
MIYAZAKI
UKAWA

2. AFTER FRIENDLY EXCHANGE OF OPINIONS ON HOW USEFUL AND EFFECTIVE ECONCOM IX HAD BEEN IN TERMS OF CLARIFYING RESPECTIVE VIEWS OF TWO GOVERNMENTS AND STRENGTHENING GENERAL RELATIONS, SECRETARY ROGERS AND FOREIGN MINISTER OHIRA DISCUSSED PROBLEMS OUTLINED BELOW.

3. SECURITY RELATIONSHIP - STRESSING FACT THAT JAPAN SHARES OUR DESIRE FOR PEACE AND STABILITY IN AREA, OHIRA EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH WAY CLOSE CONSULTATION AT ALL LEVELS HAD BEEN WORKING TO CARRY OUT KUILIMA PROMISE TO ENSURE SMOOTH AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF MUTUAL SECURITY TREATY. REFERRING OBLIQUELY TO HOMEPORTING OF CARRIER MIDWAY, OHIRA SAID US SIDE HAD FORESEEN SOME PROBLEMS AT KUILIMA BUT EXPRESSED GRATIFICATION THAT AGREEMENT ON HANDLING THESE HAD BEEN REACHED THROUGH CLOSE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS. SECSTATE EXPRESSED AGREE-MENT WITH OHIRA'S VIEWS AND APPRECIATION FOR EFFORTS GOJ HAD MADE TO EASE HOMEPORTING AND OTHER SECURITY PROBLEMS.

4. SECSTATE ASSURED OHIRA THAT USG CONSCIOUS OF IRRITANTS CAUSED BY PRESENCE OF FOREIGN TROOPS, ESPECIALLY IN URBAN AREAS, AND EXPRESSED USG INTENTION TO CONTINUE CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH GOJ REGARDING MEANS TO RELIEVE PUBLIC PRESSURES OVER BASE IRRITANTS. HOWEVER, USG FEELS IT PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT NOT TO DECREASE STRENGTH OR EVEN GIVE IMPRESSION WE THINKING OF DECREASING STRENGTH IN AREA AT TIME WHEN WE SEEKING TO IMPROVE REATLIONS WITH PRC. PRESIDENT NIXON FEELS THAT IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS WITH PRC HAS COME ABOUT BECAUSE OF STRONG ALLIANCE WITH JAPAN AND THERE NO REASON TO CHANGE POLICIES WHICH ARE WORKING WELL. WHILE WE WISH TO MAKE GRADUAL REDUCTION IN MILITARY STRENGTH CONSISTENT WITH REDUCTION OF TENSIONS WE WANT TO DO SO IN WAY WHICH WILL NOT GIVE IMPRESSION WE ARE WITHDRAWING FROM ASIA. SECSTATE NOTED THAT IN RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH US AND OTHER COUNTRIES,
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PRC HAD NOT QUESTIONED OUR MILITARY PRESENCE.

5. SECSTATE CLOSED THIS PRESENTATION WITH STATEMENT THAT WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY CONTRIBUTION JAPAN MIGHT BE ABLE TO MAKE TOWARD SHARING OF SECURITY RESPONSIBILITY IN AREA, PARTICULARLY WITH REFERENCE TO POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF JAPAN OF SOPHISTICATED ASW AND AEW EQUIPMENT.

6. OHIRA EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR SECSTATE'S PERCEPTION AND UNDERSTANDING OF BASE PROBLEMS IN JAPAN. GOJ AGREES THAT US MILITARY PRESENCE IN AREA SHOULD NOT BE WEAK OR EVEN APPEAR TO BE SO, AND THAT THIS ESPECIALLY TRUE IN LIGHT OF KOREAN SITUATION. HE ADDED THAT STRONG US PRESENCE PROVIDES INDISPENSABLE BASE

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FOR JAPANESE EFFORTS TO CARRY OUT POLICIES TOWARD USSR AND PRC.

7. SIBERIAN DEVELOPMENT - OHIRA SAID JAPAN HAS TWO LARGE AND SEVERAL SMALL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS PENDING IN SIBERIA AND THAT TO BRING THESE TO FRUITION, JAPAN MUST BE SATISFIED WITH RESPECT TO BOTH FINANCIAL TERMS AND TECHNOLOGICAL PROBLEMS, IT ALSO MUST CONSIDER THE NEED TO OBTAIN PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR THESE PROJECTS, AND MUST ALLEVIATE CONCERN OF OTHER NATIONS, ESPECIALLY CHINA, REGARDING JAPANESE POLICY. AS GOJ HAD PREVIOUSLY INFORMED USG, COOPERATION BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES ON SIBERIAN PROJECTS WAS HIGHLY DESIRABLE. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN HARTENED BY SECRETARY'S REMARK THAT USG HAD NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO THESE PROJECTS, AND UNDERSTOOD POINT THAT ULTIMATE DECISION LAY WITH PRIVATE FIRMS ON BASIS THEIR JUDGMENT OF ECONOMIC FACTORS.

8. SECSTATE RESPONDED BY RECALLING THAT DURING ECONCOM PLENARY HE HAD STRONGLY SUPPORTED US-JAPANESE COOPERATION IN SIBERIAN PROJECTS AND THAT UNDER SEC VOLCKER SAID USG WOULD BE PREPARED UNDER PROPER CONDITIONS TO EXTEND EXIMBANK CREDITS TO AMERICAN PARTICIPANTS. SECSTATE AGREED IT NECESSARY TO WORK TOGETHER TO OBTAIN PUBLIC SUPPORT AND TO ELIMINATE PRC APPREHENSIONS. AFTER REITERATING PRINCIPLE THAT ULTIMATE DECISION WOLD BE UP TO PRIVATE FIRMS, SECSTATE SAID THAT BECAUSE THREE PARTIES ARE INVOLVED, AMERICANS AND JAPANESE MUST WORK CLOSELY TOGETHER TO AVOID BEING TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF. OHIRA INDICATED UNDERSTANDING OF SECSTATE'S POINT.

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9. KOREA - OHIRA SAID GOJ WELCOMED NEW ROK FOREIGN POLICY AS PRACTICAL APPROACH TO KOREAN PROBLEM. SAID ROK IN RECENT DEMARCHE ON UN PROBLEM HAD TOLD JAPANESE IT COULD TOLERATE DISSOLUTION OF UNCURK AND SIMULTANEOUS UN MEMBERSHIP FOR DPRK AND ROK, BUT COUULD NOT TOLERATE DISMANTLEMENT OF UN COMMAND. IN RESPONSE ROK REQUEST FOR JAPANESE SUPPORT, OHIRA HAD SAID JAPANESE WOULD PROPOSE TRIPARTITE DISCUSSION WITH US AND ROK THIS FALL, TO INCLUDE QUESTION OF WHETHER IT POSSIBLE TO MAINTAIN TRADITIONAL ROK POSITION IN UN THIS FALL. PENDING OUTCOME THIS ANALYSIS GOJ WOULD BE PREPARED TO CONSULT ABOUT FURTHER MOVES.

10. OHIRA SAID THAT FOR DOMESTIC POLITICAL REASONS IT DIFFICULT FOR GOJ TO CONTINUE SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO ROK WITHOUT MAKING SOOME GESTURE TOWARD NORTH. GOJ THEREFORE HAS HAD SOME CONTACT WITH PYONGYANG AND WILL BE HAVING MORE, ALTHOUGH IT WOULD AVOID CONTACTS WITH POLITICAL COLORATION. TRADE WITH NORTH WOULD BE IN SMALL AMOUNTS BUT GOJ FEELS IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO APPROVE CREDIT GUARANTEES FOR SOME SALES. THESE WOULD NOT INVOLVE STRATEGIC ITEMS. TO DO THIS WOULD MAKE IT EASIER TO CONTINUE EXTENSION LARGE-SCALE AID TO ROK.

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11. OHIRA CONTINUED THAT JAPANESE TOOK HEART FROM US DETERMINATION TO MAINTAIN US MILITARY PRESENCE IN ROK. BASIS OF ALL ACTIVITIES IN KOREA IS CONTINUED US MILITARY PRESENCE IN KOREA, WHICH HAS REAL PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECT FOR KOREANS.

12. SECSTATE SAID HE WOULD BE DISCUSSING KOREAN SUBJECTS NEXT DAY IN SEOUL. HE STRESSED THAT AT TIME WHEN PRESIDENT PARK HAS TAKEN IMPORTANT INITIATIVE OTHER FRIENDLY NATIONS SHOULD NOT MOVE TOO FAST TO EXTEND TIES WITH NK. IT IMPORTANT THAT WE PUT AS MUCH PRESSURE AS POSSIBLE ON NK TO RESPOND FAVORABLY TO PARK'S INITIATIVE. US POLICY IS TO MOVE NO FASTER TOWARD RELATIONS WITH NK THAN COMMUNIST COUNTRIES MOVE ENSURE THAT ROK BENEFITS AS MUCH FOR RECOGNITION BY COMMUNIST COUNTRIES AS PYONGYANG DOES FROM CONTACTS WITH WEST.

13. SECSTATE STATED THAT US BASES IN JAPAN REMAIN VITAL TO ROK SECURITY. US HAD NO INTENTION TO REDUCE FORCES IN KOREA UNTIL
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MODERNIZATION JUSTIFIES IT. US AND JAPAN SHOULD FOLLOW THE SAME POLICY, SHOULD KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH AND SHOULD WATCH SITUATION CLOSELY.

14. ATOMIC BOMB CASUALTY COMMISSION - SECSTATE EXPRESSED HOPE JAPAN COULD MAKE IMMEDIATE CONTRIBUTION OF $1.2 MILLION TO SEE ABCC THROUGH CURRENT FISCAL YEAR, AND THAT WITHIN NEXT TWO TO THREE YEARS JAPAN WOULD BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO ABCC SUPPORT ON 50-50 BASIS WITH US. OHIRA RESPONDED THAT HE FAMILIAR WITH PROBLEM, WITH GOJ CONSIDERING IN CONTEXT JFY '74 BUDGET. GOJ WOULD LIKE EVENTUALLY TO REACH PARITY IN SUPPORT WITH US, WITH EACH SIDE RETAINING RESPONSIBILITY FOR OWN ACTIVITIES. HOWEVER, THERE IS PROBLEM WITH OBTAINING FUNDS FOR THIS YEAR AND GOJ IS AFRAID DIFFICULTIES WILL ARISE IF US FINDS IT NECSSARY TO DISCHARGE PERSONNEL. AMB INGERSOLL SAID THAT CONGRESSIONAL CEILING ON SUCH RESEARCHACTIVITIES WOULD MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO PAY ALL ABCC PERSONNEL MORE THAN THREE QUARTERS OF THIS YEAR. IF FUNDS TO FINANCE FOURTH QUARTER PAYMENTS CANNOT BE GUARANTEED FROM OTHER SOURCES, US WOULD HAVE TO BEGIN DISCHARGING PERSONNEL NEXT MONTH.
ROGERS

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